

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of separating a selected ionic component from a sample, which comprises contacting the sample with an ionic adsorbent whose charge density is such that the component is bound selectively in the absence of added ionic component that competitively binds the adsorbent.
2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the adsorbent is cationic.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the adsorbent comprises a sulphopropyl group.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the charge density of the adsorbent is 10 to 100 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the sample comprises two ionic components, and wherein the charge density of the adsorbent is selected such that only one of the two components is bound.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the selected ionic component is a protein.
7. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein the protein is an immunoglobulin.
8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~5 or claim 6~~ 1, wherein the sample comprises, in addition to the protein, protein A.
9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, which further comprises eluting the bound component.